CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of tracking available service plan minutes for a user of a cellular phone, comprising:

recording service plan information on said cellular phone;

monitoring minute usage for calls on said cellular phone; and

displaying available minutes of said service plan on a display device of said cellular phone.

- 2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising prompting a user for input of said service plan information when an available minute menu option is selected.
- 3. The method of Claim 2, further comprising storing said service plan information in a memory of said cellular phone.
- 4. The method of Claim 3, wherein said service plan information includes a number of peak period minutes and off-peak period minutes and wherein:

said monitoring step further comprises separately monitoring said peak period minutes and said off-peak period minutes; and

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said displaying step further comprises separately displaying a first available minutes output associated with said peak period minutes and a second available minutes output associated with said off-peak period minutes.

- 5. The method of Claim 4, wherein said displaying step displays only said first available minutes output during a clock time associated with said peak period minutes and displays only said second available minutes output during a next clock time associated with said off-peak period minutes.
- 6. The method of Claim 4, further comprising outputting an alert signal when said available minutes reaches a preselected threshold.
- 7. The method of Claim 6, wherein said displaying step displays a graphical representation of said available minutes and wherein said alert signal includes flashing said graphical representation.
- 8. The method of Claim 6, wherein said displaying step displays a numerical output.
- 9. A cellular telephone comprising:
 - a processor and associated memory;
 - a display device; and
- program code executed by said processor for tracking available service plan minutes for a user of said cellular phone, comprising code for:
 - recording service plan information on said cellular phone;

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monitoring minute usage for calls on said cellular phone; and displaying available minutes of said service plan on said display device.

- 10. The cellular telephone of Claim 9, further comprising program code for prompting a user for input of said service plan information when an available minute menu option is selected.
- 11. The cellular telephone of Claim 10, further comprising program code for storing said service plan information in said memory of said cellular phone.
- 12. The cellular telephone of Claim 11, wherein said service plan information includes a number of peak period minutes and off-peak period minutes and wherein:

said monitoring program code further comprises code for separately monitoring said peak period minutes and said off-peak period minutes; and

said displaying program code further comprises code for separately displaying a first available minutes output associated with said peak period minutes and a second available minutes output associated with said off-peak period minutes.

- 13. The cellular telephone of Claim 12, wherein said displaying program code displays only said first available minutes output during a clock time associated with said peak period minutes and displays only said second available minutes output during a next clock time associated with said off-peak period minutes.
- 14. The cellular telephone of Claim 12, further comprising program code for outputting an alert signal when said available minutes reaches a preselected threshold.

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- 15. The cellular telephone of Claim 12, wherein said displaying program code displays a graphical representation of said available minutes and wherein said alert signal includes flashing said graphical representation.
- 16. The cellular telephone of Claim 12, wherein said displaying program code displays a numerical output.
- 17. A cellular telephone system comprising:

a service provider;

at least one cellular telephone provided cellular service via said service provider;

means for tracking minute usage for calls on said cellular phone; and

means for providing a user of said cellular phone with a display of available minutes in a service plan associated with said cellular phone.

18. The cellular telephone system of Claim 17, wherein:

said tracking means includes monitoring said minute usage at a database of said service provider of said service plan; and

said providing means includes transmitting an available minutes output to said cellular phone at a termination of each of said calls, wherein said display includes said transmitted available minutes output.

1	19.	The cellular telephone system of Claim 17, wherein said cellular telephone
2	comp	rises:
3		a processor and associated memory;
4		a display device; and
5		program code executed by said processor for tracking available service plan
6	minut	tes for a user of said cellular phone, comprising code for:
8 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		recording service plan information on said cellular phone;
8 mile dimensional Rivers		monitoring minute usage for calls on said cellular phone; and
9 and I have the stand that the stand that the stand that the stand that the standard the standard that the standard the		displaying available minutes of said service plan on said display device.
* 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	20.	The cellular telephone system of Claim 19, wherein said service plan information
2 1 1	includ	les a number of peak period minutes and off-peak period minutes and wherein:
3		said monitoring program code further comprises code for separately monitoring
4	said p	peak period minutes and said off-peak period minutes; and
5		said displaying program code further comprises code for separately displaying a
6	first a	vailable minutes output associated with said peak period minutes and a second
7	availa	able minutes output associated with said off-peak period minutes.